

THE CITY OF MOSCOW

LOCAL EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, COVID-19, is a respiratory disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person, which can result in serious illness or death thereby threatening widespread and/or severe damage to life or property thereby creating an “emergency” as defined by Idaho Code § 46-1002; and

WHEREAS, the CDC identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United State as “high”, and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak a “public health emergency of international concern”; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the United States to aid the nation’s healthcare community in responding to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Washington Governor Jay Inslee proclaimed a State of Emergency exists in all counties in the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, The World Health Organization (WHO) made the assessment that COVID-19 can be characterized as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the City of Pullman Mayor, Glenn Johnson, declared a State of Emergency for the City of Pullman. The emergency declaration facilitates potential future assistance related to COVID-19 and is a means to ensure all necessary resources will be available if needed; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Idaho Governor Brad Little declared a state of emergency due to COVID-19. State officials say more than 100 people have been tested for COVID-19 in Idaho, but no one has been positive for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued an emergency declaration for the country in response to the increasing number of COVID-19 cases within the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and the Idaho North Central Health District issued recommendations for mass gatherings and public events in order to contain and slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, a local disaster emergency may be declared by the Mayor within a political subdivision, pursuant to Idaho Code § 46-1011 and other relevant sections of Idaho Code; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Idaho Code, the effect of such declaration is to activate the recovery aspects of any and all applicable local or intergovernmental disaster emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance thereunder; and

WHEREAS, the City may pass all ordinances and make all regulations necessary to preserve the public health; prevent the introduction of contagious diseases into the city; make quarantine laws for that purpose and enforce the same within five (5) miles of the City, pursuant to Idaho Code §50-304; and

WHEREAS, the City of Moscow desires to take action in order to be proactive and help reduce the spread of this virus and encourages our community members and community businesses to do their part to prevent and limit the spreading of this virus;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lambert, Mayor of the City of Moscow, Idaho, do hereby proclaim and declare a local disaster emergency in the City of Moscow, Latah County, Idaho. All City departments are directed to utilize City resources as follows:

1. To do everything reasonably possible to assist affected individuals and entities in an effort to respond to and recover from the outbreak.
2. To follow the recommendation of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and that of Public Health-Idaho North Central District by postponing or canceling all City sponsored events meeting the following criteria:
 - a. The event will draw audiences or participants from communities, states, or countries with confirmed community spread of COVID-19 disease.
 - b. The event will be held indoors and bring together more than 250 individuals where social distancing of 6 feet or more is unlikely or not possible.
 - c. The event's primary audience includes or may expose high-risk populations, including adults over the age of 60 years and people with underlying chronic medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes, regardless of the number of attendees.

3. To take immediate action and other reasonably necessary steps to prevent and limit the spreading of COVID-19, including, but not limited to activation of the City of Moscow Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Plan, Disaster Management Plan Annex.

The City of Moscow recommends the Public follow the same recommendations of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and that of Public Health-Idaho North Central District by postponing or cancelling mass gatherings and public events that meet the criteria noted above.

This declaration shall remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days, unless extended pursuant to authorization of the Moscow City Council in accordance with Idaho Code § 46-1011(1).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand on this 13th day of MARCH, 2020.



Bill Lambert

Bill Lambert

ATTEST:

Laurie M. Hopkins
/s/ Laurie M. Hopkins, Deputy City Clerk

Laurie M. Hopkins, City Clerk